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GERMANS ADVANCE TO WITHIN 6 MILES OF HAGUENAU BASE

Fierce Fighting Flares Up on Northern Edge of Alsace Plains

Domei

LISBON, January 8.—Fighting flared up fiercely on the northern edge of the Alsace plains where the American 7th army has been pushed back eight miles through the Wissembourg gap and field dispatches said that at points, the Germans were within six miles of the important base of Haguenau, according to dispatches received here.

None of the German drives in the south between the Vosges and the Rhine had been stopped and reports indicated that the Germans battled hard to expand two sizeable bridgeheads across the Rhine above and below Strasbourg in blows against the American 7th and French 1st armies. The Germans hold one bridgehead across the Rhine eight miles north of the French city of Strasbourg.

Field dispatches said the Germans also reinforced their Colmar position to the south, captured Witternheim and Freisenheim and drove north along the Rhine-Rhone canal to within 18 miles south of Strasbourg. French sources in Paris said the town was being evacuated hastily.

Moreover in the extreme north, the German bridgehead across the Maas River north of Venlo endured all anti-Axis attacks and Supreme Headquarters mentioned a second crossing of the river 38 miles northeast of Antwerp.

Anti-Axis Hard Hit

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 8.—John Kimche, Reuter's military correspondent, today wrote, "One gets the impression that on the Western Front there are now two opposing armies in search of plan" and predicted that German Field Marshal Gert von Rundstedt will continue to attack at one point or another, according to a London dispatch.

Kimche said that on Sunday morning, correspondents at the anti-Axis headquarters reported "the entire anti-Axis time-table has been upset by Rundstedt's offensive." On the evening of the same day Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery counter-stated "Rundstedt could no longer attain his original and major objectives."

"So what next?" Kimche asked. He stressed that Rundstedt's attack at least did succeed in his "moral offensive." "He has undoubtedly raised both German fighting spirit and home morale. This moral success is of tremendous importance to the German leaders, and therefore it is unthinkable that it will be maintained." Kimche predicted "Rundstedt will not return to the defensive and at one point or another he will continue to attack."

"This gives some clues to Rundstedt's next move," the correspondent said. "It will depend on his troop deployments whether he will try his hand in Alsace or Holland. If he cannot get substantial forces, he will probably concentrate on the south, but from all activity on the Maas it appears that he had not given up the hope of either attacking there or compelling the British withdrawal to shorter lines."

U.S. Closes 3 Consulates

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 8.—The United States has closed three consulates in Argentina leaving Buenos Aires the only one open, disclosed a Washington dispatch. According to the statement on January 3, the consulate and embassy in Buenos Aires continued to function on the basis on which they had operated since the United States dropped its relations with the Farrell Government. However, at present, there is no American ambassador in Buenos Aires.

Churchill, Subasic Confer

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 8—Prime Minister Winston Churchill conferred today with Yugoslav Premier Ivan Subasic but the detail of their meeting was not disclosed, according to a London report. Meanwhile, King Peter of Yugoslavia has objected to the agreement reached between Subasic and Marshal Joseph 'Tito' Brosovitch, Commander-in-Chief of the Yugoslav Partisan Army, and has submitted his views in a memorandum to the British Prime Minister and President Roosevelt.

His Majesty Presents Acting President Chen With High Decoration

His Majesty the Emperor has graciously presented to His Excellency Chen Kung-po, Acting President of the National Government of China at Nanking, the First Class Order of the Rising Sun with the Paulownia Flowers with the Grand Cordon on the occasion of the second anniversary of China's participation in the war, it was announced by the Foreign Office on Tuesday.

SHIFT IN ENEMY SETUP ON W. FRONT DEMANDED

Montgomery Suggested Deputy Under Eisenhower and Given Complete Charge

Domei

LISBON, January 8.—Correspondent Cummings in Friday's News Chronicle demanded that Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery be made Deputy Commander under General Dwight Eisenhower or at least a change be made in the staff of the anti-Axis headquarters, according to a London dispatch.

Montgomery, who President Roosevelt emphasized could not be regarded as Deputy Commander despite the recent change of the anti-Axis command on the Western Front, ought to make all the war plans and be held responsible for all decisive steps, the British correspondent asserted.

He said that it is openly criticized that Eisenhower is too occupied by routine administrative work and emphasized that he had too little time to attend to far-reaching plans or strategical details.

Cummings regretted that the U.S. War Department and the American public in general opposed the nomination of Montgomery to such an important position but believed that Montgomery would be the right man to oppose Marshal Gert von Rundstedt. In case he is not appointed to the post, Cummings demanded, at least a reshuffle in the staff at the anti-Axis headquarters should be made.

He stated that the great battle has only just started and the crisis is far from over and added that should the anti-Axis take the initiative at the earliest moment there would be many problems the solution of which would require bold leadership.

British Still Disappointed

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 8.—In spite of Field-Marshal Bernard Montgomery's appointment as Commander-in-Chief of the Northern Front, the British public is still dissatisfied with the situation in the west as well as with the political complications cropping up everywhere, writes the London correspondent of the Goeteborgs Handels-och Sjofartstidning.

The offensive thrust of the German high command and the effect of the V-bombs are greatly impressing the man in the street, he said. A disagreeable surprise has also been caused by the Observer article stating that the anti-Axis had only 80 divisions in the west and that they were now lacking reserves.

Foreign policy, the correspondent continues, was chiefly worrying the British Liberal and Conservative circles. He also said that the general impression is that the anti-Axis nations had reached a deadlock in their political war conduct from which it seems difficult to get out.

'Big 3' Meeting Set

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 8.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to Washington, during the past week had a long conference with President Roosevelt. Two days previous to this the President conferred with Edward Stettinius, Secretary of State, and part of their conversations dealt with the forthcoming meeting among Roosevelt, Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Josef Stalin, according to a Washington report. It is now conceded that the 'Big 3' meeting will be held soon after Roosevelt's inauguration on January 20.

Nagoya Area Again Raided

One Mariana-based B-29 bomber penetrating over the Kii Peninsula entered the Nagoya district at 10:10 p.m. on January 8. A second and third raiders also appeared over the same district shortly after 12:30 a.m. and 5 a.m. the next day. They dropped incendiary bombs causing fires to break out at several places but the flames were quickly brought under control.

GERMAN FORCES ADVANCE NORTHWEST OF BUDAPEST

After Capturing Gran, Wehrmacht Moves 40 kms. Toward Hungarian Capital

Domei

BERLIN, January 8.—Destroying or capturing 159 Soviet tanks and 425 guns, German relief forces slashed through the Soviet lines northwest of Budapest and capturing Gran moved ahead 40 kilometers toward the capital as the fighting between Lake Balaton and the Danube north of the Vertes mountains developed more and more in importance.

Frontline reports said that German tank wedges supported by the Luftwaffe pursued, attacked and overran the Soviet formations which evacuated their positions in the Vertes mountains and shoved the German front eastward to the Gran-Stuhlweissenburg line and were last reported still pounding ahead.

To relieve their endangered formations south of the Danube bend, Soviet troops thrust out from their positions north of the river, but all thrusts were smashed. Also north of the river repeated Soviet attempts at crossing the Gran were unsuccessful.

Fighting in Budapest itself, meanwhile continued, but considerable relief was already noticeable as a result of the German threat northwest of the capital. Despite overwhelming numerical superiority, Soviet onslaughts against the city especially from the east gained no ground beyond the suburbs of Kispest during the past 24 hours.

The situation along the Slovakian border was left unchanged yesterday and all Soviet attacks foundered in the face of stiff German resistance.

Fighting in the remaining sectors was limited to local reconnaissance skirmishes, but renewed fighting in the Baranov bridgehead sector on the western bank of the Vistula indicated a prelude to larger-scale activity.

The German surprise thrust in Courland which has been under way for the past 48 hours scored additional gains. German troops penetrated deeply through the Soviet lines and gained most ground near Doblen despite stubborn resistance.

Soviets Abandon Esztergom

Domei

LISBON, January 7.—Moscow admitted today that the Germans' six-day offensive to relieve Budapest had carried 19 miles through the Soviet lines and forced the Red Army to abandon Esztergom (Gran), key Danube city northwest of Budapest. Esztergom, the ancient capital of Hungary which lies on the south bank of the Danube 19 miles from Budapest, was captured on December 26 by Tolbukhin's 3rd Ukrainian army.

BYRNES SEEKS MORE MEN

Asks Hershey to Recheck Farmers For Induction Into Armed Forces

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 8.—James Byrnes, Director of the U.S. War Mobilization and Reconversion, in his first annual report to Congress last week requested Congress to take up the task of mobilizing the country's manpower and to increase the power of the War Manpower Commission, a Washington report disclosed today.

Two days later, Byrnes instructed Major General Lewis Hershey, Director of the Selective Service Board, to order his Board to reexamine all farm workers between the ages of 18 and 26 to see whether under the existing laws they should be inducted into military service. The law now provides deferment for essential farm workers.

PIUS XII AIDS INTERNEES

Announcement was made by the Observatore Romano, organ of the Vatican, on December 31 that in the name of Pope Pius XII, the Apostolic Delegate in Australia at Christmas time, had made a monetary gift to the war prisoners and internees of various nationalities the latter including the Japanese, numbering 3,410, in Australia, according to official information reaching the Foreign Office from Ken Harada, Minister to the Vatican.

The paper also said that the report of the Apostolic Delegate to the Vatican showed that all those who received the benevolence of the Pope were doing well.

Presents Credentials

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 8.—Major General Patrick Hurley, U.S. Ambassador to Chungking, presented his credentials to Chiang Kai-shek, Chairman of the Chungking Kuomintang, according to a Chungking report.

11 Heroes of Air Battle Off Taiwan Cited for Exemplary War Actions

Honors for Army Officers Who Achieved Brilliant Results Brought to Imperial Knowledge, War Ministry Announces

The glorious military exploits established by 11 Army officers including Major Mitsuru Miyajima, Captain Kan Saito and Sergeant Mitsuru Morisawa, the heroes of the Aerial Battle off Taiwan in mid-October last year, who were cited by their respective Commanders and Field Marshal Count Hisaichi Terauchi, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army Forces in the Southern Area, have now been brought to the August knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor, it was announced by the War Ministry on Tuesday.

The text of the announcement follows:

"To Major Mitsuru Miyajima and three other officers, Captain Kan Saito and five others, as well as Sergeant Mitsuru Morisawa who achieved glorious results in the Aerial Battle off Taiwan during the middle part of October, 1944, citations have previously been granted by the Army Commanders and the Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army Forces in the Southern Area, respectively, and these matters have now been brought to the August knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor."

CITATION

To Major Mitsuru Miyajima, Captain Yoshio Tominaga, Captain Takeo Yoshikawa, Captain Shinji Seto.

As Commanders of the Attack Units, the above sallied forth over the sea area east of Taiwan braving adverse weather on October 14, 1944, where they caught up with a powerful group of the enemy task force at 6:29 p.m.

Under the order of Major Miyajima to direct an attack, a pincer assault from three directions against the enemy fleet was commenced headed by all the above Commanders and torpedoes were deliberately discharged in defiance of severe enemy gunfire. The Yoshikawa and the Seto planes made gallant ramming attacks one after the other and sank or damaged a total of eight warships including two battleships, one large aircraft carrier, two small plane-carriers, one heavy cruiser and two light cruisers thereby inflicting an annihilative blow on the enemy task force. Thus, all the officers met a glorious end.

Their achievements were due to the appropriate supervision of all the Commanders with sense of responsibility and fully demonstrated the spirit of the Army Torpedo Bomber Unit in manifesting the spirit of the ramming attack and in sacrificing their lives for their country. They highly enhanced the merit of the Army Torpedo Bomber Unit. Their military services were outstanding. Wherefor a citation, is hereby issued and proclaimed to the entire Army.

December 8, 1944

Army Commander

CITATION

To Captain Kan Saito, Lieutenant Tokio Watanabe, Sergeant Major Shinichi Yamazaki, Sergeant Mitsuo Tamaki, Sergeant Toyomi Yamagishi, Lance Corporal Tamotsu Iwai.

The above took part in an attack on the evening of October 14, 1944, against an enemy task force which was furtively moving off Taiwan.

Upon receipt of the order to attack, they dashed into the ring formation of the enemy fleet, penetrating the severe enemy gunfire in skilful, mobile operation, and deliberately torpedoed a battleship which was sunk instantaneously. They returned to their base safely.

Such action was the result of the thoroughness of the death-defying ramming tactics with maintenance of high fighting spirit as well as the close cooperation among the Commander and all the other occupants of the plane.

Their activities were the essence of the Army Torpedo Bomber Unit and their achievements were great. Wherefor a citation is hereby issued and proclaimed to the entire Army.

December 8, 1944

Army Commander

CITATION

To Sergeant Mitsuru Morisawa.

On October 15, 1944, when the Army and Navy Air Forces jointly launched an offensive against an enemy task force appearing in the waters east of the Philippines, the above, piloting a new fighter plane, sallied forth and despite a faulty auxiliary fuel tank, he continued on his mission after dumping the above auxiliary tank and successfully accomplished his escort duty.

When the main strength of the Japanese Air Forces started to return, the Sergeant, after dipping the wings of his plane in final salute, gallantly launched a ramming attack on an enemy aircraft carrier which was damaged and set ablaze.

This was achieved due to the outstanding fighting spirit and sense of responsibility possessed by Sergeant Morisawa. His action was glorious and his achievement outstanding, these being an example to the Imperial Forces. Wherefor a citation is hereby issued and notified to the entire Army.

December 9, 1944

Hisaichi Terauchi
Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army Forces in the Southern Area

U.S. SENATORS ASSAIL ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE

Lacked Program for Altering Present Unsettled International Situation

Domei

LISBON, January 8.—A survey over the week-end of Congressional reaction to President Roosevelt's message definitely showed that his supporters and opponents alike were disappointed and especially Senate Republican leaders assailed Roosevelt's "secretive foreign policy," according to a Washington dispatch.

The report said that considerable criticisms are made on the domestic issues particularly the national service legislation proposed by the President and that foreign affairs-minded Congressmen have been quick to criticize Roosevelt's statement on the international situation. It is expected that there will be an early debate in both the Senate and the House over the proposed international security organizations as well as other foreign affairs.

Senator Robert Taft of Ohio, strong Roosevelt critic, told reporters that the President's message gave no evidence of the Administration's planning to change its "secretive foreign policy." Republican Senator Raymond E. Willis said that Roosevelt's statement "lacked a program from altering the present unsettled international situation" and he attacked Roosevelt for seemingly being willing to accept the European situation as it is. Likewise Republican Senator Fugerson from Michigan warned that the United States foreign policy has got to be "more definite if the American people are to get behind it."

Concerning the serious Polish and Greek problems, Fugerson urged the setting up of an organization to handle international political problems such as Greece and Poland and Maine's Senator Wallace White regretted that Roosevelt's message did not in a more direct fashion "voice disapproval of the American people of the invasion of Greece and Poland and the rights of the people in these countries."

Another Roosevelt opponent Senator Burton Wheeler said "unless Roosevelt takes drastic action to kill off the secret unilateral treaties that are now being entered into it will be too late to do anything."

10 NEW U.S. SENATORS TAKE OATH OF OFFICE

18 Reelected Solons Are Also Sworn In; Speaker Rayburn Again Elected

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 8.—With the opening of the 79th U.S. Congress, 10 new senators and 18 others who were reelected last November took the oath of office today in the Senate, according to a Washington report.

The present House of Representatives consists of 243 Democrats compared with 215 in the last Congress. At present, there are 190 Republicans compared with 210 who held office previously while the remaining two members are independent.

Vice President Henry A. Wallace continues to preside over the Senate until the inauguration of his successor, Harry S. Truman, on January 20.

At the same congressional meeting, the Lower House reelected Speaker Sam Rayburn, Texas Democrat, for a fourth term. Both Republicans and Democrat reelected their floor leaders and other offices which manage their Party affairs.

The only legislation passed by the Lower House was on the motion of Representative John E. Rankin, Mississippi Democrat, who urged that the Committee to Investigate Un-American Activity commonly referred to as the Dies Committee be made as the permanent organ of the House. His resolution was carried by a coalition of Republicans and a comparatively small number of Democrats from the Southern States.

TURKEY REMAINS SILENT ON BALKAN BLOC PLAN

Fear of Antagonizing Soviets Said Cause for Non-Commital Attitude

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 8.—Although Turkish public opinion views with interest the movement which seems to be gaining ground recently for the formation of a Balkan union or federation, the Turkish press and political circles remain silent concerning pronouncements or publications made abroad in support of this idea preferring to preserve a non-commital attitude for fear of irritating Moscow, writes the Times correspondent from Istanbul, according to a London report.

Some time ago, the Soviet press published an article disparaging the idea of the formation of the bloc composing Balkan States, and the Turks, wishing to refrain from doing anything likely to cause friction with Moscow are most reluctant to commit themselves.

The other reason for the Turkish hesitation is the present unsettled situation in almost every Balkan country. The cooperation among various Balkan nations in order to be sincere and enduring must be supported in good faith by a large majority in every Balkan country. The sincerity and reliability of support could be ascertained only in normal conditions when the Balkan peoples could examine calmly the question of the Balkan Federation and could express their views freely. A hasty adherence to the federation, perhaps given under pressure or prompted by a political opportunity and with mental reservations would be worthless and might cause bitter disappointments and further complications.

Although in principle, Turkey would warmly support any step towards an establishment of an organized political order, based on the cooperation of Balkan States, she feels this ideal is dependent on the fulfillment of two essential conditions: 1) The two Great Powers directly interested in the southwestern Europe, Great Britain and the Soviet Union, should agree between them and state clearly their common policy, and, 2) A reasonable state of appeasement and free play of constitutional liberties should be attained in every Balkan country. Failing the fulfillment of these two prerequisites, it would be futile, in Turkish opinion to build any solid structure on the Balkan quicksands.

The Times' Moscow correspondent reported recently that a reception for representatives of the Slovak National Council who are now in Moscow, after talks with Eduard Benes in London, was given on December 3 at the Czechoslovakian Embassy. Visitors expressed deep satisfaction with the unity of views concerning the future position of Slovakia in Czechoslovakia State. It is understood that the Slovak National Council, in complete loyalty to the Czechoslovak State, will take over the civil administration of liberated Slovakia, when it suits the Red Army to relinquish military control.

CHIANG FAVORS AMERICA

Chungking to Encourage Investment Of Foreign Capital in China

Domei

LISBON, January 7.—In order to save its tottering finances, the Chungking regime recently revised and mitigated the various regulations concerning American trade and investments in China, thereby assuring favorable terms for the United States.

Dr. H. H. Kung, Chiang Kai-shek's representative in the United States, is reported to have organized a committee for the purpose of investigating the future of the various foreign banks in China and also of matters related to insurance and is said to have reported the results to Chungking. The reports of the findings of the committee will determine Chungking's new financial policy, the objectives of which will be to encourage investment of foreign capital in China and to promote individual Chinese enterprises.

CHIANG'S POWER WANING AMONG CHUNGKING PUBLIC

People's Morale Low—Disunity Cause of Defeats, Says Article in Collier's

Domei

LISBON, January 7.—Declaring that the "morale of the Chungking people and their regard for Chiang Kai-shek's Government are at their lowest ebb," Collier's, in the most sensational article carried by any American magazine on China, published a story by Mark Gayn which said that the hour is passed for falsehoods, unjustified optimism and for bickering," according to a New York dispatch.

Mark Gayn was formerly a Time magazine contributing editor and is now foreign correspondent for the Chicago Sun. He is at present on his way to Moscow.

In the article which is entitled "The Cause of Chungking's tragedy," the author says "this is a reporter's report on China and gives a picture of a friend in great distress. This picture is not pretty but for China's sake as well as for our own, the truth must now be told. The hour is too late for falsehood, for false optimism or for bickering."

"The first conclusion drawn by all observers is that the influence of Chiang Kai-shek and his Government is at its weakest in ten years and secondly that the national morale is at its lowest point, and thirdly, disunity, physical exhaustion and inability of her allies to send sufficient supplies are all responsible for Chungking's tragic defeats." The author went on to suggest, that "for this disunity, the only effective cure is a democratic reform rather than the addition of one or two Communists to the Cabinet."

After discussing the recent changes and reforms initiated by Chiang, Gayn concludes his aricle by saying, "It would not be early to say that the steps taken thus far will assure a revitalized and united Chungking. The men who fought a democratic reform so bitterly for so long are still in control of the Government and Party. The Army command has not unified and enemies of the army's reorganization still wield greater power. The only hope is that Chiang Kai-shek will realize the gravity of the crisis and the desperate need for drastic action. The hour of decision is here."

ANTI-AXIS WAR COSTS SOAR

$500 Billion Already Spent; F.D.R. Asking Huge Budget

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 8.—War expenditures of the anti-Axis countries have skyrocketed to $500,000,000,000 based on incomplete figures prepared by the U.S. Department of Commerce and offices of the anti-Axis Governments in Washington.

It revealed that the United States spent half of that sum with the Soviet Union ranking second in war spending. Britain not including the Dominions spent some $96,000,000,000 from 1939 to September 2, 1944.

Meanwhile, it was learned that President Roosevelt in his budget message to Congress tomorrow is expected to ask for appropriations totaling $15,000,000,000 for war expenditures in the next 12 months.

MUNICH BOMBED BY RAF

Huge Damage Dealt to Civilians and Many Cultural Monuments

Domei

BERLIN, January 8.—Twenty-seven four-engined British bombers were brought down last night during two heavy British raids which authorities described as purely terror attacks against the populated centers of Munich.

Bombs were dropped at random and caused considerable damage to civilian residents and numerous cultural monuments. Reports so far on hand said that the National Theater, the Old Mint, the Army Museum, and the St. John and Maxmillian Churches as well as five hospitals were hit.

NIPPON AIR ATTACKS FORCE ENEMY SHIPS TO FLEE WESTWARD

Invaders, Nearing Lingayen Area, Seen Compelled to Veer Off as Assaults Continued

By M. NAGAI
Of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE FRONT BASE, January 9.—In the face of the most terrific Japanese air attacks continually carried out since January 7, the enemy fleet which started its northerly advance on the same evening from the waters west of Mindoro Island toward Manila Bay and which was expected to approach either the Manila or Lingayen coast early yesterday morning appears to have been compelled to move westward to avoid the intense Japanese air assaults.

Japanese air attacks continued at high pitch until yesterday evening and the sea west of Manila is bright with columns of flames rising from enemy ships set ablaze. The offensive against the enemy fleet has now reached its climax in intensity.

Enemy Seeking Landing Chance

All of the Units of the Japanese Air Forces in the Philippine area, in their capacity as members of the Special Attack Corps, are now vigorously attacking the enemy warships and transports which have constantly been attempting to land troops on the coast of Lingayen Bay on Luzon Island.

Completing their counterattack operations, Imperial Land Forces are in high spirits and morale, seeking the opportune moment to strike down the enemy at one blow.

In concert with a part of the second echelon formation the first formation of the enemy convoy consisting of 70 to 80 transports continuously bombarded the coastal area early on the morning of January 9, persistently attempting a landing on San Fabian and Bagupan. The main body of the second echelon formation comprising about 150 transports was still at sea west of Lingayen while a task force plied in the area northwest of Luzon Island on the morning of January 9.

A convoy consisting of about 100 to 150 transports, which is the third echelon formation of the enemy force, was spotted in the area west of Panay Island on the afternoon of January 8 as it advanced northward.

3 Transports Smashed

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 9.—Japanese Air Units, attacking the enemy transport fleet in the waters west of Luzon early on the morning of January 7, sank one large-sized transport and heavily damaged one small-sized transport. Furthermore, at dawn on January 8 another large-sized enemy transport was instantaneously sunk.

Hop-Off to Blast Convoy

By H. OMORI
Of the Military Press Corps

ADVANCE BASE IN THE PHILIPPINE AREA, January 8.—With grim determination to sink one enemy warship with one plane, the Wild Eagles hopped-off on their one-way trip yesterday, upon receipt of news that an enemy convoy had entered Lingayen Bay on the morning of January 7, followed by some 200 transports which were plying northward in the waters west of Panay Island.

Prior to the appearance of enemy transports in Lingayen Bay, a powerful enemy convoy had entered Surigao Strait on the afternoon of January 3, and further pushing its way westward over the Mindanao Sea, had entered the Sulu Sea. Commissioned to strike at the enemy convoy, three planes of the Issei Unit of the Army Special Attack Corps had taken off from the base on the afternoon of January 4, and, according to direct reports by a scout plane, they sank one enemy aircraft carrier and two battleships or cruisers. Again, on January 4, four Wild Eagles of the Issei Unit had instantaneously sunk two aircraft carriers and one battleship by ramming attacks.

The time was ripe for the Wild Eagles to carry out their ramming attacks against the enemy convoy which had appeared in Lingayen Bay, yesterday afternoon, for dark clouds hung low in the skies and furious squalls were raging.

Everything was in readiness, thanks to the strenuous efforts of the ground crew throughout the previous night.

The time arrived for the take-off. The staff officer explained the way

(Continued on Page 2 Col 3)

GREAT MILITARY FEAT ACHIEVED BY GERMANS

Troops From Aegean and S.E. Europe Brought Back Foiling Enemy Plans to Seal Them

Domei

BERLIN, January 7.—The cleverness of the German leadership, together with the valor and almost super-human performances of the German troops, prevented the anti-Axis hopes of sealing the German armies in southeastern Europe from being fulfilled, declared the first report given concerning one of the most important military operations in history regarding which strict silence has so far been maintained.

The bringing back of the German troops from the Aegean and from the southeastern European area was greatly handicapped by the treachery of Rumania and Bulgaria which permitted the unhindered arrival of Bolshevist troops in southeastern Europe. In addition, there was civil war in Greece. Moreover, one road only was available over a distance of more than 1,000 kilometers. This road was destroyed, threatened and even broken up at many places by strong bands. Furthermore, in addition to all this, the German troops in the Aegean area were opposed by an enemy far superior at sea and in the air. In the Balkans they had in their rear well-armed bands supplied by the British as well as the Soviets, which were under the command of Soviet agents.

It, therefore, surprised nobody when the enemy propaganda declared the fate of the German armies were sealed. Colonel General Loehr, the German Commander-in-Chief who, coming from southeastern Europe and therefore knowing the conditions there as well as all the important languages, was entrusted with the task of protecting the utmost German southern flank, told a special correspondent of the D.N.B. the following details:

The troops of the German southern flank were scattered with strong forces on all the important Aegean islands up to Rhodes. On account of the happenings in Rumania and Bulgaria the German position lost its strategic importance. The German formations had to be taken back in order to reinforce the northern front at the same time preventing the British as long as possible from acting freely in the Aegean as well as in Greece.

Despite the superiority of the British in the air and at sea the less important islands in the Aegean were evacuated and all movable materials taken along. Bases on strategically important islands are still being held and are tying down considerable enemy forces.

The evacuation of Greece was carried out without interference worth mentioning. The German military authorities avoided interference in the internal affairs of the country. The flames of civil war were rising in the areas evacuated by the German troops. Far greater difficulties were encountered when all German formations marched along the sole railway and road connecting Athens-Skolpje-Mitrovica-Belgrade. This was performed only under constant and heavy fighting with strong bands. Up to 30, 40, 50 and even 60 kilometers were covered in a single day.

At the beginning there was tropical heat which eventually changed to a continuous heavy rain and snow-fall on the very poor mountain roads. Special formations prepared the roads so that armored cars and heavy batteries could pass.

The bulk of the German armies was not delayed. Bulgarian divisions in Macedonia were dispersed. Against their principal force those German formations which arrived first from Greece protected the flank up to the Skolpje area. This screen warded off all enemy attacks.

The columns, marching northward to Serbian territory, were at first without protection against the enemy. Eventually, however, weak infantry forces brought up from the south, formed a thin veil which was gradually increased. Altogether four Bulgarian divisions and one reinforced Bulgarian tank brigade vainly attacked this veil for a full four weeks. Immediately behind this veil thousands of vehicles were coming along.

In the meantime, Belgrade fell under the superior strength of the Soviets. In Krajevo, however, the German troops resisted the heavy assaults by superior Soviet formations.

From the Amsel field one single and very poor road leads across a wild country to Sarajevo. With quick and hard blows this road was cleared of Tito's Bolshevist bands. The bridges were rebuilt and the connection with the group in Krajevo reestablished. Hardly ten weeks after the beginning of this operation German soldiers from all parts of the German army were at their new front after unprecedented achievements in fighting and marching.

Reich Paratrooper Escapes From France, Reaches Own Lines With Booty of Benzine

Domei

BERLIN, January 8.—A certain German non-commissioned officer of the paratroops not only made a successful escape from captivity but reported back at the Dutch front sector of a certain German division with a truck loaded with 1,500 liters of benzine and 16 British soldiers. The story of his escape from captivity follows:

One day as this German soldier was working at one of the British airfields near Calais, the British mechanic whom the German was assisting, was suddenly called away. The German soldier used this opportunity to escape.

Running to a locker-room nearby, he seized a pilot's combination suit and drawing it on, climbed into a Spitfire which was standing on the runway with its motors ready to start. In view of the fact that this German had been a pilot with 154 sorties to his credit before joining the paratroops, he had no trouble in getting off with "his" Spitfire.

He flew in the direction where he believed the German front to be. When he was over Hertogenbosh the fact that he was fired at by AA defense guns made him think that he had reached the German Lines. Descending, therefore, he landed and ran toward a truck only to notice too late that it was a British truck with British soldiers standing on it.

Determinedly introducing himself as a French pilot who had made a forced landing, he sympathetically listened to the British soldiers' explanation that the truck which was laden with benzine, had no driver. Offering his services, the German climbed in and took the wheel. Thus with his load of benzine and 16 British soldiers, he started off.

Upon encountering strong defense fire, the German driver realized that he had reached his own lines. German soldiers soon surrounded the car and the "French pilot", descending from his place behind the wheel, with raised hands, told his story. He was only sorry, he told his comrades, that he had not been able to bring his Spitfire along.

GERMANS PLAN TO MAKE NEW COUNTEROFFENSIVES

Reich Arises With Renewed War Power After Overcoming Its Greatest Crisis

Domei

BERLIN, January 7.—Following the shortening of front lines by the German forces, the operational initiative has again been regained by making preparations for powerful counteroffensives in areas other than the Belgian Front where Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt's forces have been striking back against the Anglo-American invading troops with remarkable speed and fierceness.

Impressions gained during the passing week of the New Year all point to the fact that Germany has now recovered from the depression which featured the general outlook in the 1943-44 period and has risen with renewed vigor.

The current year has begun in a most dramatic atmosphere for Germany, with extreme tension prevailing over all the three major fronts, eastern, western, and southern, where the Soviet and Anglo-American forces are locked in life and death struggle with the Reich forces, while, on the other hand, the peoples of other belligerent Powers greeted the arrival of the new year apparently in an air of breathless strain.

Especially for the German people, whose fatherland has been partly invaded by enemy forces, this New Year means the year when the final outcome of the titanic war will be decided and, under such circumstances, it is no wonder that the people should be incomparably firmer in their determination than any other nation engaged in the war and their morale should be rising ever higher.

During the year end and New Year period, all German leaders gave out proclamations and messages with a view toward bolstering the people's morale. Of these messages and orders, the radio addresses delivered by Propaganda Minister Dr. Joseph Goebbels on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve and Fuehrer Adolf Hitler's New Year's radio message attracted the most intense attention. The Fuehrer's radio message to the people served to impress the German nation of the seriousness of the situation besides having the effect of discrediting the rumor that he was critically ill.

What formed the center of arguments in the speeches of both Dr. Goebbels and the Fuehrer was that this year was inevitably the year of final decision. Their addresses also showed their conviction that now that Germany has overcome the greatest crisis, the situation will develop favorably for Germany provided the Germans hold out to the last. This same conviction has featured all the speeches made by Reich leaders which were delivered invariably with fiery oratory and which showed the stubborn spirit of resistance. That these speeches are not mere bombasts has been proved by the recent German counteroffensive in the Belgian area as well as by the appearance of various new weapons whose mass production is going on at present.

Ignores Argentine Request

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 8.—Argentina's request to attend the meeting of the American Republics has been ignored by the Governing Board of the Pan-American Union, a Washington report disclosed today. It was also revealed that the Board has decided to hold the conference in the near future attended by all the American Republics participating in the present war and said that at the meeting, it will consider the Argentine request.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

January 8

London, Liege and Antwerp are being subjected to the continuous shelling of our long-range weapons.

On the northern and southwestern flank of the front bend between the Meuse and Moselle, our formations are holding their own in the severe fighting against renewed break-through attempts of the U.S. 1st Army reinforced by British divisions and again destroyed numerous enemy tanks.

While east of Bastogne, the enemy achieved no successes and was thrown farther back by our attacks.

In the southern sector of the Western Front, the fighting in Alsace and at the upper Rhine became more extensive. South of Weissenburg our troops broke into the Maginot Line while south of Strassburg enemy security formations were dispersed in a surprise thrust west of the Rhine toward the north. In unsuccessful counterattacks by quickly collected formations, the enemy lost 14 tanks while more than 100 vehicles were destroyed.

Only individual reconnaissance skirmishes developed in Italy yesterday.

In Hungary, troops of the Army and Waffen SS in several days of offensive fighting between Lake Balaton and the Danube pushed through the enemy positions and gained ground toward the east up to 40 kilometers, north of the Vertes Mountains while the Gran was recaptured. In the course of these successful operations, 584 enemy tanks were either destroyed or captured and the enemy suffered heavy losses. The fighting is still continuing and the German-Hungarian garrison of Budapest is holding its own against the Soviets attacking from the east.

In the southeastern district of Kispest, violent street fighting is raging and in the past two days 101 enemy tanks were destroyed north of the Danube mostly by the Panzerfaust. One armored division destroyed 58 tanks, and 128 guns of all kinds were either captured or destroyed.

American terror formations yesterday made a daylight attack against western and southwestern Reich territory and the residential quarters were again the particular target of their bombs. In the course of two successive nocturnal raids on Munich, severe damage was caused to buildings, and numerous cultural monuments were destroyed. Our A.A.-defenses shot down 27 four-motored enemy bombers.

Nippon Air Attacks Force Enemy Ships To Flee Westward

(Continued From Page 1)

situation as every airman doubled his resolve to sink one enemy vessel with his plane. With smiles on their faces, the Wild Eagles hurried to their respective planes while the others remaining including the staff officer and the ground crew waved their caps. The squalls ceased and the eastern sky became beautifully colored with rainbow rays.

Davao Area Raided

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 9.—A formation of more than ten medium-sized enemy planes came attacking Davao before daybreak on January 7, and again yesterday morning the same district was raided by a formation of over 10 B-24's.

Yiojima Repeatedly Attacked

Domei

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, January 9.—Several large-size enemy planes made repeated attacks on Yiojima on the night of January 7.

Enemy Propaganda Blasted

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 7.—The anti-Axis propaganda that synthetic blood had been discovered for blood-transfusions was refuted by Brigadier-General Sir Lionel Whitby in his article contributed to the January 4 issue of the Lancet, a British medical magazine. Whitby stated, "In the first six weeks of the invasion, 27,766 wounded soldiers of the anti-Axis forces received the blood-transfusion treatment. Continuous research works have been conducted to discover synthetic blood, but so far most of the experiments have ended in failure."

GREEK PREMIER TRIES TO PACIFY GUERRILLAS

If ELAS Disarm, Promises To Set Up Army to Defend Greece And Join Anti-Axis

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, January 7.—Greek Premier General Nicholas Plastiras declared that if the ELAS laid down their arms he would use his authority as head of the Greek armed forces to organize an army strong enough not only to defend Greece but also to take an active part in the anti-Axis war effort, according to an Athens report.

On the other hand, if the rebels did not stop fighting, Plastiras stated that he would place himself at the head of the army to carry out liquidation operations against the ELAS forces.

He also promised the election of a constituent assembly not a plebiscite after peace and order is restored and assured the Greek people that he would carry out their will.

The Premier also announced that two new members have been appointed to his Cabinet; namely, the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Education.

Meanwhile, Lieutenant General Ronald Scobie, British Commander in Greece, said that the original peace terms offered to the EAM forces have been withdrawn in view of the current situation in the country and that he is still prepared to discuss new terms with the anti-Axis leaders.

The original armistice terms were that that rebels should withdraw from Attica and that they should lay down their arms in Athens. The new terms, it is understood, will have to contain provisions dealing with the conditions of war prisoners and hostages as the ELAS hold a considerable number of British and Greek regulars as captives and it is stated that some of the wounded men are without proper medical care. Scobie has accused the ELAS of taking British and Greek civilians as hostages when they pulled out of Athens and said that any future armistice terms will have to cover the release of the hostages.

Scobie reported to Regent Archbishop Damaskinos that the whole of Athens and Piraeus has now been cleared of ELAS forces. British motorized columns in the meantime have now pushed forward to some 15 miles northeast and northwest of Athens. They met only slight opposition and a few prisoners were taken while the work of clearing the outskirts of Athens and Piraeus continues.

British Policy Ridiculed

Domei

BERLIN, January 7.—It is amusing to see with what agility the British press is able to change its face in regard to the ELAS, declared the Wilhelmstrasse today in commenting upon the developments in Greece.

At first, according to the British press, the ELAS men were heroes equipped with good arms and whose united activity Prime Minister Winston Churchill praised as a highly encouraging sign of the Greek will to attain freedom. Later Churchill stated in the House of Commons that the ELAS were composed of bandits, thieves and gangsters.

When rigorous British methods proved unsuccessful and negotiations again became necessary, Lieutenant General Ronald Scobie, British Commander in Greece, had himself photographed with one of the ELAS leaders, forgetting completely that only a few days before this ELAS leader had been a thief, a gangster and a bandit according to Churchill. Today, however, after the failure of the conference, the British Exchange Agency reports in detail on the murders, committed by the ELAS among the Greek population mentioning 3,000 murdered.

In the opinion of the Wilhelmstrasse the characteristics which are now ascribed to the ELAS by the Exchange Agency likewise fit other Balkan partisans such as Tito's bands which for committing their murders were likewise equipped with British arms and enjoyed British support as long as they served British interests.

U.S. Rejects Soviet Bid

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 8.—The United States has refused to supply the Soviet Union with Lend-Lease goods for civilian use after the war and this action is delaying the signing of the fourth Lend-Lease agreement under which Moscow will receive supply of goods from Britain, the United States and Canada totaling £500,000,000, according to a London report.

Chungking Congress Meeting

Domei

LISBON, January 8.—The Chungking Kuomintang Standing Committee today decided to convene the Kuomintang's National Congress on May 5 to discuss the transfer of governing power to the people in accordance with Chiang Kai-shek's promise, according to a Chungking dispatch. The last regular National Congress was held in Hankow in 1938.

COUNTERATTACK ON B-29'S OVER WEST KYUSHU TOLD

Navy Fliers Make Daring Thrusts Into 3 Formations Of Raiders on January 6

By K. YAMAMOTO
Of the Military Press Corps

CERTAIN BASE.—Detailed information has become available concerning the feats achieved by a certain Navy Air Defense Unit when it counterattacked the B-29's that raided western Kyushu on January 6.

Upon receipt of information that B-29 bombers were heading for Kyushu, the Navy Air Defense Unit took to the air.

The enemy attempted to make a detour to get over its target instead of making its way directly to it as in previous raids. It was clear that by this maneuver the enemy wished to minimize its losses. But the enemy's plan was frustrated by Japanese airmen who refused to be caught unawares.

About 70 to 80 B-29's came to attack Kyushu on January 6 from bases in China. Only about 20 of the B-29's, however, managed to reach Kyushu. The others apparently had retraced their course to China because of bad weather before they could get near their objectives.

The result which has been ascertained of the battle the Navy Air Defense Unit gave to the B-29's when they appeared over western Kyushu was two planes shot down and six damaged.

The presence of the enemy near Kyushu was first discovered by a number of planes of the Air Defense Unit which had left the base before the main formation took off. While patroling above the clouds they spotted the enemy flying in three formations. Visibility was good, and the occupants of the patrol planes were able to observe that there were six planes in the first formation, nine in the second, and six in the third.

Second Sub-Lieutenant Yoshimichi Saiki, of Kagoshima Prefecture, let the first formation pass and fell upon the nine planes in the succeeding formation.

Then with the sun behind him he effected a daring attack on the leading plane of the third formation. Instantly flames were seen issuing from the right engine. The next moment, the B-29 plunged into the sea.

Sub-Lieutenant Hachitaro Hayashi of Nagasaki Prefecture spotted an enemy plane over a hilly district. It was the commanding plane of the three formations. He attacked it, and shot it down in flames.

By this time crack fighter planes of the Air Defense Unit were ready to go into action against the enemy.

Flight Warrant Officer Natsuo Iwanaga, of Nagasaki Prefecture and First Flight Petty Officer Yasujiro Imamoto, of Kanagawa Prefecture, piloting Genko planes, rushed to where Reisen and Raiden fighters were attacking six B-29's which were moving westward. They attacked the raiders, causing one of them to burst into flames.

Sub-Lieutenant Ikushi Nomura and Second Flight Petty Officer Yukie Yagura pursued the plane on fire as it dropped from the formation and shot it down.

Acting separately from this group of Japanese airmen were Third Flight Petty Officer Yukio Kurusu, of Kyoto, and others. As he was rising higher after Sub-Lieutenant Koichi Sawada, who was in the lead, Kurusu spotted six enemy planes, one of them apart from the rest. He contrived to get before the fleeing plane and rained bullets on it. Soon the engines of the enemy plane stopped. From this and other circumstances he was certain that the plane was forced down shortly afterward.

The complete result of the fight against the three formations of B-29's will not be known for some time as the reports of the airmen who took part in the combat are in the process of tabulation. The report which has just been received at this base is from Third Flight Petty Officer Yasunobu Naatsu, who damaged two B-29's.

New Party Formed in U.S.

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 8.—An Isolationist Party has been formed in the United States and Senator Robert R. Reynolds, North Carolina Democrat, is backing the Party, the New York correspondent of the Daily Express reported today. He said that this new Party which will be called Nationalist Party has already established branches in many cities throughout the United States.

Blackout in Paris

Domei

GENEVA, January 8.—Total blackout was reintroduced in Paris on account of the danger of German air raids, reported the Daily Mirror of London today.

Lebanon Cabinet Resigns

Domei

LISBON, January 8.—The Lebanon Government of Premier Riad El Solh resigned today, according to a Beirut dispatch. No details were announced.

U.S. Admiral Warns Robot Bombs May Hit New York or Washington in Next 30 Days

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 8.—Admiral Jonas Ingram, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, in a press conference aboard his flagship said today that enemy robot raids against New York and other Atlantic points are possible and will probably take place within the next 30 or 60 days, AP, UP and Reuter news agencies reported today from a certain point on the eastern coast of the United States.

Ingram said he would take charge of the coastal defenses of New York and Washington and had moved "plenty of forces" to take every precaution against the attack but warned against panic which could increase the damage and said "the next alert will be the real McCoy."

He said the bombs could be launched one of three ways, firstly, from surface ships, secondly from submarines and thirdly from long-range planes. He said the bombs probably would be smaller than the V-1 or V-2 and the greatest danger to expect was from fires. Bombs, he said, are not expected to damage seriously any large buildings.

Warning against panic, Ingram declared that the danger area covered a 300-mile area in which either New York or Washington could be hit. He said the Germans had "at least" 300 submarines in the Atlantic and the United States Navy was prepared to keep them from coming close enough to fire.

Ingram warned that the Empire State building might be hit and cause panic. "They may kill a few people and cause some damage, but it would be nothing like what the people of London are suffering under," Ingram said.

Southern England Hit

Domei

LISBON, January 8.—German V-bombs landed in southern England and the London area again yesterday causing damage and casualties, the London announcement briefly stated today, but other reports said the Germans are stepping up their bombardment of England with the V-2 bombs known as the "flying-telephone poles," according to a London dispatch.

JAPANESE ACTIVE IN BURMA

Kobayashi Unit Blows Up Five Enemy Barracks North of Kambal

By A. HAMATANI
Of the Military Press Corps

ADVANCE BASE IN BURMA, January 8.—Units of the Japanese Forces in northern Burma have been carrying out attacks against the enemy troops since December last year inflicting upon them heavy damage.

Early in December, the Isokawa Raiding Unit penetrated deep into the enemy position at Kalewa on the northern Burmese front, killed 15 enemy soldiers, and captured one tank and various kinds of arms, thus disturbing the enemy's rear lines.

The Kobayashi Raiding Unit on December 28, attacked the enemy's artillery position at a point five kilometers north of Kambal and blasted five barracks, and three trucks while stabbing with bayonets 15 enemy soldiers. All the members of the Unit returned safely.

Enemy on Morotai Hit

By T. KAWAKAMI and T. YAMAZAKI
Of the Military Press Corps

BASE ON SOUTHERN FRONT, January 8.—Units of the Japanese Forces on Morotai, carrying out daring bayonet charges against troops protecting fuel and ammunition dumps in the vicinity of the enemy's main airfield on December 21, killed or wounded more than 140 enemy soldiers, and set afire various facilities and supplies. The Japanese Forces are still continuing their thrusts against various enemy positions on the island.

NEWS SERVICE TO ITALIANS

Papers to Be Supplied Directly by Anglo-American Agencies

Domei

MILAN, January 8.—Rear-Admiral Stone, head of the anti-Axis Control Commission in Rome, announced that from January 15th the right to sell news service to the Italian press directly has been extended to the four leading Anglo-American news agencies namely, Associated Press, United Press, International News Service and Reuters, according to the American radio in Naples. At the same time, the papers received permission to publish the news items of these four agencies. The Stefani news agency will not again take up its activity.

Local political circles draw attention to the fact that this regulation places the entire press of occupied Italy under the influence of **American and British news agencies whereas no Italian agency had been admitted. Thus, Italians in the occupied territories are only admitted to hear their "master's voice."**

Facts Worth Noting

Provisional Government of France

General Charles de Gaulle—President
Georges Bidault—Foreign Minister
Andre Texier—Home Minister
Pierre Mandes France—Economic Affairs Minister
Robert T. Prigent—Agriculture Minister
Rene Pleven—Finance Minister
Andre Philip—Minister of Relations with the Consultative Assembly
Andre Trorquer—Minister for Liberated Territories
Henri Gueu'lle—Minister for Occupied Territories
Francois Billoux—same
Francois Menthon—Justice Minister
Andre Diethelm—War Minister
Fernand Grenier—Aviation Minister
Rene Mayer—Traffic and Merchant Marine Minister
Henri Fresnay—Minister for War Prisoners and Deportation
Paul Jacobi—Minister for Production and Food Supply
Rene Capitant—Minister of National Education
Jean Monnet—Minister of Special Affairs
Louis Jacquinot—Navy Minister
General Marie E. Bethouart—Chief of Staff
Gen. Larminat—C-in-C of Army
Adm. Philippe Auboyneau—C-in-C of Navy
Gen. Martial Valin—C-in-C of Air Force
Louis Grosso—Governor General of Martinique
Hubert Carras—Governor General of Cameroons
Henri Laurentie—Director of Colonial Commissariat in Algiers
Andre Bayardelle—Sec.-Gen. for French Equatorial Africa
Leon Geismar—Sec.-Gen. for French East Africa
Andre Delte—State Minister
Gen Gabriel Paux—Resident-General of French Morocco
Maurice Thorez—Sec.-Gen. of French Communist Party
Capt. Christian Fouchet—Delegate to Polish Lublin Committee
Henri Bonnet—Ambassador to U.S.
Rene Massigli—Ambassador to London
Gen. Georges Catroux—Ambassador to Moscow
Gen. Zinovi Pechkoff—Ambassador to Chungking
Yves Le Chataigneau—Delegate-General to Syria and Lebanon

VARIOUS OPINIONS SEEN ON FRANCO-SOVIET PACT

Realities in Europe Have Ridden Roughshod Over Expectations, Says N.Y. Times

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 7.—The Franco-Soviet Alliance Treaty is generally welcomed in France as a great diplomatic achievement although it cannot be said to have dispersed the last trace of the French people's apprehension of renewed American isolation, according to the Washington correspondent of the Times in repeating a Paris dispatch contained in the New York Times. On the other hand, the first reaction to this treaty in non-government circles was expressed by the New York Times which remarked that the system of alliances, namely, Russo-British, Russo-Czech and Russo-French, was "something different from the universal world organization which Secretary of State Cordell Hull envisaged after the Moscow Conference."

The journal continued that the realities of European politics had "ridden roughshod" over the expectation that alliances and spheres of influence would no longer be necessary and that the best which could be said of these alliances was that they need not conflict with the Dumbarton Oaks plan and might even be incorporated into it in the shape of a regional organization for the maintenance of peace in Europe though "nobody could overlook the dangers inherent in the alliance system as amply proved by history."

It remarked that what most sadly needed correction in the thinking of large groups of Americans is the idea that there are no problems which cannot be solved by the drafting of some perfect constitutional system. Senator Gillette of Iowa early in December demanded that the United States at once should announce its peace aims based on the principles of the Atlantic Charter if the war were not to end in a "hollow military victory to be followed by armed truce only." He had the Soviet Union in mind when he spoke of "one of our great allies whose viewpoint is that the announced principles of the Atlantic Charter are not in any sense retroactive beyond a certain arbitrarily fixed date," and he declared also that "at this very moment, the bond of interest which has held us together through this war shows signs of disintegration before our eyes into conflicting spheres of influence."

Gillette complained that American reporters were not accredited to the Soviet troops and referred to the "grim protests" forwarded to the American Government by the American-Polish Association, Lithuanian Association and Catholic American-Hungarian League.

Trying Moyne's Assassins

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 8.—Court trial of the two culprits charged with the murder of the late Lord Moyne, British Resident Minister to the Middle East, will begin tomorrow, according to a Cairo dispatch.

Aussies in P.I. Battles

Domei

LISBON, January 8.—The Australian army, navy and air forces are now playing an important role in the Philippine operations, stated Francis W. Forde, Minister of War and concurrently Acting Prime Minister of Australia, yesterday, according to a Canberra dispatch.

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NAVY OFFICERS, SEAMEN POSTHUMOUSLY HONORED

Heroes of War of Greater East Asia Decorated; 16 Awarded 'Shukun Ko'

The conferment of posthumous honors upon a number of Navy officers and seamen who fell in action in the course of the War of Greater East Asia was jointly announced by the Bureau of Decorations and the Navy Ministry under the date of January 10.

The announcement said:

"An Imperial Command has been issued ordering the conferment of honors on some of the Navy servicemen who died in the course of the War of Greater East Asia. Of the honored heroes, 16 men including Commander Rikuta Tategami have been awarded 'Shukun Ko' or Special Distinction Honors."

The late Commander Tategami, recipient of the Third Class Order of the Golden Kite and the Fourth Class Order of the Rising Sun, rendered meritorious services while engaged in submarine operations in the waters around Wake Island, the Indian Ocean and in the waters along the west coast of Africa. In the course of attacks against an enemy task force in the South Seas in which he took part as Commander of a submarine, the late Commander was accredited with the sinking of a large cruiser and two other warships.

The late Lieutenant Commander Tokuhiro Tominaga, who won the Fourth Class Order of the Golden Kite and the Fifth Class Order of the Rising Sun for meritorious services rendered as Chief Engineer of a submarine, participated in operations in waters around the Hawaiian Islands, along the west coast of North America and off the Aleutian Islands. Later, he took part in the South Seas operations and achieved brilliant war results comprising the sinking of a large enemy cruiser and another warcraft of unidentified category.

The late Lieutenant Commander Tadashi Kono, taking part in the Philippine and East Indies operations as Commander of a patrol boat, sank two hostile underseacraft. Later, he became Commander of a mine-layer and rendered distinguished services while engaged in convoy duties. He is accredited with the destruction of a submarine while engaged in that mission.

The late Lieutenant Takao Okamoto, recipient of the Fourth Class Order of the Golden Kite together with the Sixth Class Order of the Rising Sun, participated in the Philippine and East Indies operations on board a cruiser. The late Lieutenant was later appointed Chief Navigation Officer of a submarine and earned distinction in transport duties in the Solomon Islands area and in the Inner South Seas operations.

The late Second Sub-Lieutenant Yoichi Ouchi and the late Warrant Officer Akira Adachi engaged themselves in maritime defense of Tokyo Bay as crew members of a mine-layer as well as in protecting patrol boats in the Chishima and Narukami-jima waters. The sinking of three hostile underseacraft was among their achievements.

Concert Calendar

Subscription concert by the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Professor Manfred Gurlitt, Wednesday and Thursday, January 10 and 11, at 6:30 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Soloists: Miss Kiyoko Ohtani, soprano, and Miss Kazuko Kamakura, alto. Program: Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2; Toroku Takagi's Asa-no-Aisatsu; Saburo Takada's Kaze-no-Utatta-Uta; Rossini's aria from Barber of Seville; Verdi's aria from La Traviata; Weber's aria from Free Shooter; Saint-Saens' Samson and Delilah.

Concert featuring Yoichi Hiraoka, xylophone and Toho Light Music Orchestra, Friday, January 12, matinee at 2 p.m., and soiree at 6 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall.

The 8th Tokyo Home Concert, postponed to Sunday, January 14, at 2 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Program: Piano solo by Miss Kyo Ishii: Debussy's La Soiree dans Grenade; Debussy's Minstrels; Kunihiko Hashimoto's Danse Coquette; Chopin's Ballade g moll; Violin solo by Miss Takiko Ohmura; Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E minor; Soprano solo by Miss Harue Miyake; Kunihiko Hashimoto's Ohgimi-ni; Hideo Ishiwata's Kanko and Yama-no-Yuki; Kunihiko Hashimoto's Haha-no-Uta; Koscak Yamada's Mitami-no-Uta. Piano accompaniment by Miss Yasuko Tani.

Special concert by the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Noboru Kaneko, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 16 and 17, at 6 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Soloists: Miss Harue Miyake, soprano; Seiichi Sonoda, tenor, and Takeo Ito, baritone. Program: The complete cycle of Berlioz's Damnation of Faust.

Xylophone recital by Yoichi Hiraoka, sponsored by the Yoshida Music office, Tuesday, January 23, at 6 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Piano accompaniment by Hitoshi Uyeda.

Subscription concert by the Nippon Philharmonic Orchestra, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, January 24, 25, and 26, at 6 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall, under the baton of Kazuo Yamada. Soloist: Miss Harue Miyake, soprano. Program: Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 (Flute solo by Haruo Yoshida; Violin solo by Miss Mitsue Nishikawa; Piano solo by Miss Mayako Muroi); Kazuo Yamada's "Ohmutakara"; Mahler's Song of the Great Earth.

Ogasawara Honored

In appreciation of his consistent efforts for the promotion of the friendly relations between Germany and Japan, Vice-Admiral Viscount Naganari Ogasawara, President of the Japan-Germany-Italy Friendship Association, was presented with the Order of the Eagle (Adler) by German Ambassador H. G. Stahmer in a ceremony held at the German Embassy at 11 a.m. on Tuesday. The Adler Order is the supreme German decoration for meritorious civilians and Viscount Ogasawara is the first Japanese to be presented with this Order. It was recently sent here from Fuehrer Hitler.

News and Views

Is it Chiang's Defeat?

By K. OYA

There is something more than meets the eye in the extraordinary enthusiasm displayed by America's pressdom to Chiang Kai-shek's recent pronouncement in which he ostensibly promised his Chinese public to remove the regime from the hand of the Nationalist Party to the people by formulating a definite national constitution at "the earliest possible date permitted by the military situation."

To account for that enthusiasm by the idea of democratizing the whole world, America of today is too undemocratic to make it plausible. If democracy is truly the question at issue, the American people would have reacted and showed their reaction a long time ago to Marshal Josef Stalin's Government, for example. Why should the so-called democratization of Chungking be so great a concern to them to warrant such enthusiasm?

What was the real appeal? The most concise way of putting it would be to rephrase Chiang Kai-shek's statement into these words—the Chungking government finds it necessary by reason of external pressure to formulate a national constitution as quickly as possible so that it can remove its political authority from the Chinese to the Americans.—That, and no other implication had really appealed to the Americans.

As far as Chiang Kai-shek is concerned, it is nothing new to attempt to form a national constitution of China; he had the intention of doing so long before 1936 but the final draft completed in 1936 had to be held in abeyance due to the outbreak of the China Affair and Chiang had to be content to leave the matter to postwar days. From China's actualities his decision should be called a most adequate one but Chiang began to alter his decision because of the great issue made by the Americans of the alleged "dictatorship" and "undemocratic character" of his regime. And such intervention on America's part against Chungking's domestic politics was taken advantage of by the Chinese Communist Party, a fact which accelerated Chungking's political unstability.

The fundamental question that emerges out of all this is this: what logical reason is there for one nation to judge and condemn another nation's form of government or regime, be it dictatorial or otherwise, when it represents the right measure to meet the particular circumstances confronting that nation. It is the problem of that nation and no other.

Nobody can reasonably deny the fact that the Kuomintang or the Nationalist Party led by Chiang Kai-shek constitutes the sole political pillar of the Chungking regime. There is no such political unit in the Chungking controlled territory as "people" in the sense of a modern, free and self-motivating public. What America and the Chinese Communists demanded of Chungking was to return its regime to the "people" that do not exist in Chungking's China.

Chiang Kai-shek apparently has bowed to that demand; at least superficially, and he has conceded to America and the Chinese Communist Party a part of his political authority through that strange pronouncement of his, which appealed to the American public so strongly. Was that Chiang's unconditional surrender politically? We doubt it. A man of his political caliber and complexity is expected to play a more subtle game than that. For one thing, being smooth to Washington and the Communist public can afford him to strengthen his own Party substantially, though not apparently. Watch more carefully for example the subtle current inside Chungking today, evolving around the formation of the New C.C. as led by Chu Chia-hua, the newly appointed head of Chungking's Education Department in the recent Cabinet reshuffle.

Chiang Kai-shek is truly working to create a "people" to whom he can transfer his regime, a people more agreeable to himself than his secretly detested Americans or the Communist Chinese.

CHINA WAR RESOLVE FIRM

Faces Third Year With Spirit of the Kamikaze Corps

Domei

PEKING, January 9.—Upon greeting the second anniversary of China's declaration of war on America and Britain today, Wang Keh-min, Chairman of the North China Political Affairs Commission, made the following statement asserting North China's contribution toward the war efforts in the last two years and simultaneously expressing his firm resolve to contribute further to the prosecution of the gigantic war.

Mr. Wang's statement substantially follows:

"North China, for the last two years, has greatly consolidated its wartime structure by means of increasing production, stabilizing wartime economic structure, realizing peace and order and developing natural resources. At the same time, wholehearted efforts have been exerted in improving the people's general thoughts, deepening their consciousness of war, invigorating the New Citizen's Movement and establishing North China on a firmer foundation.

"At present, the enemy, resorting to his enormous material strength, has invaded the Philippine area, apparently attesting to his insatiable ambition for the domination of East Asia. Confronted with a critical phase of the war, North China is determined to tighten its unity, increase its production, and consolidate its wartime structure by enduring all sorts of setbacks in the spirit being daily manifested in ramming attacks carried out by the Special Attack Corps of the Imperial Japanese Army and Navy Forces. In that spirit, North China is resolved to carry on till ultimate victory is assured and the sacred task of establishing the common prosperity realized in Greater East Asia."

Bose Arrives in Medan

Domei

MEDAN, January 6.—Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, arrived in Medan on January 3, to urge the Indians in Sumatra to greater efforts. On the same day Mr. Bose attended a rally held at the square, before the Provincial Government Offices and delivered a fiery address. Moved intensely by their leader, the Indians of Sumatra donated 1,000,000 guilders to the headquarters of the Indian Independence League.

ASIATICS RENEW RESOLVE TO ATTAIN COMMON IDEAL

Patriotism of Special Attack Corps Asia's Guiding Spirit, Says Chang Ching-hui

Upon greeting the year 1945, the 1,000,000,000 Asiatics have renewed their grim determination to establish East Asia as emphasized by the Prime Ministers of the Greater East Asiatic nations in their exchange broadcasts made during the first three days of January. In their radio speeches, every Prime Minister expressed his country's unswerving resolve to complete the weighty task of realizing common prosperity in Greater East Asia.

Prime Minister Chang Ching-hui of Manchoukuo, in the course of his radio address on the night of January 2, declared that the heroic spirit manifested by the Japanese Army and Navy Special Attack Corps must be the guiding spirit for all Asiatics. Chen Kung-po, Acting President of the National Government of China, in his speech, said that in 1945, a battle must be fought which would decide the destiny of the peoples of Greater East Asia.

On January 2, Prime Minister Khuang Aphaiwong of Thailand stressed the urgent need of cooperating with Japan in full understanding of Japan's sublime war objectives and faithfully living up to the spirit of the Japan-Thailand Joint Defensive and Offensive Alliance. President Jose P. Laurel of the Philippine Republic also voiced his firm determination to carry on till a new order is realized for all time.

Victory Through Sacrifice

On New Year's day, Prime Minister Dr. Ba Maw of Burma reiterated his countrymen's unflinching resolve to throw everything into the war effort until the situation turns favorable for Japan and her allies, and the Asiatics gain lasting liberation. Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, in his radio speech on January 3 told the Indians residing in Asia that Indian independence would be realized only if his people were willing to die in action.

With the intensification of the war situation the youths of Greater East Asiatic nations, realizing the weighty mission entrusted to them have expressed their ardent wish to die for their respective nations. The burning patriotism awakened in the hearts of Asiatic youths has further invigorated the national or racial movements in the countries of Greater East Asia.

Upon receiving the news of the heroism of the members of the Special Attack Corps, the Javanese youths have organized a similar corps. In view of the rising tide of patriotism among the Javanese youths, the Japanese military authorities in Java, have commenced a special training to instil high ideals into the youths and train them according to strict discipline. The establishment of a special school for this purpose is now planned.

Burmese United

In Burma, the branch of the Greater East Asiatic Youths Federation which has greatly contributed to the realization of independence in Burma, is now active in further strengthening the national defense and enlightening the Burmese people. At the second nationwide conference of the Federation held on December 26 last year, a resolution was adopted to effect complete unity within the country by incorporating the Kachins, China and Karens into a united front.

Furthermore in China, which greets the third year of its participation in the War of Greater East Asia on January 9, the intensification of the youth movement since the latter part of last year has tended to deepen the decisive war coloring of the Hsinmin movement. In January, 1942 the Hsinmin movement was launched in the name of the late President Wang Ching-wei for the purpose of perfecting China's wartime structure. The idea that the road to the construction of new China was inseparably bound to the sound training of China's youth in the fiery cauldron of war gradually gained force.

The Manchoukuo and the Mongolian Governments announced in the latter part of December their budgets for the year 1945. The 1945 general and special budgets for Manchoukuo totalled the hitherto unprecedented amounts of ¥4,173,000,000 in expenditures and revenues of ¥4,202,000,000. The increase in general revenue for 1945, as compared to the previous year was 43 per cent and for expenditures 44 per cent.

War Effort Stressed

Last year emphasis was placed on the strengthening of Manchoukuo's northern defenses and the increase of fighting power, but the new budget has been drawn up on the fundamental policy of prosecuting the War of Greater East Asia. All new expenditures are directly related to the increased of fighting power and concentrated on lines which would yield quick results.

A sound financial policy will be adhered to in the matter of revenue, with the main part of the tax increase derived from consumption taxes, to realize an increase of ¥328,000,000 in revenue from general accounts. The budget for special accounts will naturally have to be increased due to investments in the tobacco monopoly, subsidies to labor service corps and military expenses.

Mongolia's general budget for 1945 is set at ¥276,750,000 for both revenue and expenditure. This is an increase of ¥128,000,000 over that of the previous year. As compared to last year's budget compiled on the basis of effecting increased production of resources to bolster national defense and to assure peace and order, the new budget has cut down to the minimum all expenditures not directly connected with the enhancement of Mongolia's fighting potentialities. Predominance has been given to the strengthening of national defense, maintenance of order, increase of production and stabilization of the people's livelihood.

Furthermore, compared to the previous year, large amounts have been appropriated for the reserve account, attesting to Mongolia's firm determination to prosecute the war to victory. Increase in revenue will be obtained from taxes and profits from monopoly rights. Mongolia is thus maintaining a sound financial structure, following the policy established at the time of the founding of the present Mongolian Government.

PRESS COMMENTS

January 9, 1944

ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

MAINICHI—President Roosevelt's message to Congress strikes us as a painful excuse reflecting his particular personality, and his attempt to deceive the American masses is surprisingly barefaced. For instance, he declares that what the American army and navy most urgently require are 20,000 hospital nurses. Not even the most gullible of the American masses will be persuaded to believe that 20,000 nurses are what are most urgently required in the American fighting services.

There is also a passage to the effect that "everything we are and have is at stake." This forms the basis of the message of 2,000 words, but it eventually proves to be a mere statement of facts.

Why has such a situation come about? Isn't this just what the Americans themselves have brought about? Who endangered the existence of America? Who menaced the American mode of life? Not only President Roosevelt himself but also other American leaders, when this point is raised, always become silent. So long as this point remains unexplained, any message of the President of whatever length will be nothing but empty words. Even with his tactics, Roosevelt is unable to explain fully the domestic structure surrounding the munitions production or the diplomatic relations within the anti-Axis camp.

There are two reasons why Roosevelt cannot speak openly. One is that the American military authorities completely miscalculated the future of the fighting situation. This applies both to the European and Pacific fronts. The other is Roosevelt's abuse of the munitions production issue as a means for obtaining votes in his recent election campaign.

His inconsistencies in the diplomatic field are even more glaring. Some time ago his evasive statements in regard to the signing the Atlantic Charter elicited the ridicule of the world. In his present message, he declares that it is most regrettable that various issues are cropping up in the "liberated" areas which however are bound to be solved eventually by those nations themselves. In short he implies that Poland, Belgium, Greece and Italy should solve their own domestic issues. Then let us ask if the state of affairs in the foregoing countries is in such a condition as likely to be settled by their own power. Is Roosevelt ignorant of this simple fact? Is he not aware of it? Of course he is. Knowing it, he still makes an irresponsible statement like this which shows his cynical character.

He further declares that "the Atlantic Charter is an important document indicating our goal and that all the basic principles contained therein we are bound to realize by all endeavors humanly possible."

Roosevelt's message is one that will be long remembered an irresponsible statement. Whether or not the "awakening of the wisdom of humanity" will permit the establishment of a world peace structure as proposed in this foolish document is an issue which is out of the question.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE AND AMERICAN CRISIS

ASAHI—The President of the United States, according to custom, sent his annual Congressional message for the new year. His message is reported to be a lengthy statement consisting of 8,000 words, being in gist an appeal to the Americans regarding the growing difficulty of the war and a warning against cherishing unwarrantable optimistic views. It is a notable fact that contrary to the usual custom of announcing the general policies and measures of his administration for the year, Roosevelt took up in his message such problems as have already been repeatedly pointed out by us.

At a time when the war is in the stage of final decisive battles, the message discloses the great unrest and stir which the United States is experiencing in the conduct and direction of the war. The strategic plan with which they loudly prophesized the year 1944 would be made a year of victory has already collapsed. To make the situation worse, in Europe the Americans are faced with a great failure in the execution of strategic operations, and the duration of their war against Japan is beyond their calculation.

Thus, America's world strategic plan requires serious revision, including the "time schedule" in the conduct of strategic operations. Not only has it become necessary for the President of the United States to issue an order for the wholesale stoppage of the reconversion of industries, which had been started since last year, but it has also become imperative for him to call for a far greater production than the highest peak reached so far.

It is natural that such an order issued by the American Government, calling upon the nation so suddenly to "gird up its loins"—by a Government which has hitherto fed the nation with talks of constant victories—should not be accepted by the people meekly and readily. American laborers and capitalists today, far from showing their enthusiasm for prosecution of the war, are unceasingly calling for the security of their living and their industrial recovery after the war. Laborers are calling for the raising of their wages and the restoration of their right to strike, while capitalists are demanding resumption of civilian production, freedom of enterprise and preparations for postwar international trade. All these have combined to retard munitions production, to cause a shortage of supply of arms and ammunition to the front, and to occasion a serious failure in the conduct of strategic operations.

However loudly the President may cry, "everything we are and have is at stake," the American nation will not recognize the crisis which their country is facing unless it sees close the enemy in sight. But the true American crisis will come with the failure of the strategic plan, with the stagnation and collapse of the strategic operations, and with the consequent setting in of a period marked by an intensification of domestic disturbances. It can well be said that that period is now coming.

Monetary Gifts Made To Thailand, Germany By Burmese Premier

Domei

RANGOON, January 8.—Prime Minister Dr. Ba Maw of Burma, who visited Bangkok on his way home from Japan, has donated ¥100,000 to the Thai people for use in the relief of the disaster of war, as a token of unity between Burma and Thailand in the conduct of the common struggle for the liberation of Greater East Asia, according to an announcement made by the Burmese authorities yesterday. At the same time that he made the gift to the Thai people, Dr. Ba Maw presented ¥500,000 to the German people to be added to the fund for the relief of the war disaster. The gift was accompanied by a letter addressed to Fuehrer Hitler in which the Head of State of Burma praised the heroic fighting put up by Germany in perfect unity.

Cabinet Hears Takebe

Prior to the opening of the regular Cabinet meeting at the Prime Minister's official residence at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso and other Ministers listened to the report on the Manchoukuo situation given by Rokuzo Takebe, Director-General of the General Affairs Board of Manchoukuo.

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Roosevelt's Inconsistent Message

President Roosevelt's message to Congress on the state of the Union and his summary of that message broadcast to the public last Saturday night dealt with such a multitude of subjects that the effect must have indeed been confusing to the American people. But this effect of confusion is not to be wondered at, for it was a most difficult task that the President had. For on the one hand, he had to maintain the fiction that his conduct of the war was producing the most successful results while at the same time, on the other hand, he had to call upon the people for such increased fortitude and effort as would not be necessary if things were really going so well. Hence the astonishing contradictions and veiled inferences which were so confusing.

If this dilemma of the President is understood, however, his message becomes perfectly clear. Then it will be seen that the true state of the Union is such as to permit of no satisfaction or comfort to the American people.

The long recital of the progress of the military situation which occupied such a large part of the message is of no significance, for it contained virtually nothing which the public did not already know from newspaper reports. Its only purpose was to create the illusion that things are going well for America and her allies. But even in this purpose it must have failed, for the President was forced to admit that the past year "ended with a setback for our arms" when the Germans launched their great surprise offensive. Roosevelt tried to pretend that the American forces had now recovered from the shock, and he expressed his confidence in General Eisenhower for facing "this period of trial with admirable calm and resolution", but the fact that the President was forced to resort to such a patent attempt to gloss over the situation and to make such a solemn public announcement of his supposed confidence in the American commander betrays how catastrophic was the American disaster and how justifiably shaken has become the confidence of the people in the competence of the American command.

But the best indication of how completely the government leaders had miscalculated in their planning for the war is to be seen in the new demands which President Roosevelt has been forced to make upon the American people. His statement that the United States would have to increase her goals in the production of weapons is a confession of the shortage which has developed in the American supply of arms. It is an admission of the unexpected power of Japanese and German resistance which has caused the American forces to expend more munitions than had been provided, an unconscious tribute to Axis strength and a disclosure of faulty planning on the part of the American leaders.

President Roosevelt's urgent call for 20,000 more trained nurses for the army hospitals is an indication of the appalling casualties which the American forces are suffering. His announcement that nurses would be forcibly drafted for service with the army, his appeal for volunteer nurses to tide over the crisis until the draft could be carried out, betray how unexpectedly great has been the toll taken in battle. It is a point which the American people must note with shock and dismay that so many of their sons are being torn and mutilated. It belies the impression which the authorities have been trying to create by hiding the true extent of the losses through piecemeal and delayed publication of the casualty lists.

The appeal of the President to the workers of the country to remain at their jobs in the essential war industries is evidence that the American leaders now realize that the war will continue for a long time yet and that America's production of war supplies is inadequate for such a protracted conflict. Roosevelt now castigates as a "quitter" those who would shift from war jobs to less essential jobs. But it was the Government itself which created the false optimism that the war would soon be over and it was the Government itself which only a few months ago talked so much about reconversion to peacetime industries and actually sanctioned the beginning of such reconversion. Now the President's attitude shows that all the talk about reconversion was merely insincere pre-election campaign propaganda or else the result of a serious government miscalculation. In either case it cannot contribute to the confidence of the American people in the veracity or the sagacity of their President.

In fact the renewed demand of President Roosevelt for a National Service Act under which civilians, both men and women, may be conscripted for labor in the war industries shows how serious is the production crisis in the United States, how crippling is the manpower shortage, and how unsatisfactory is the volunteer response of the American people.

Finally in the realm of foreign relations, Roosevelt admits that the greatest danger to the United States, a danger which he claims is even greater than the military danger, is the development of a wedge between the United States and her allies. The growth of this wedge he tries to attribute to enemy propaganda. But can mere propaganda be so effective unless it is based on the truth? If a rift between the United States and her allies is so menacing, is it not because in fact there exist real and serious differences between them?

Roosevelt more than tacitly admitted as much when he expressed concern over the situation in Poland and Greece where the supposed allies are at bitter odds; when he stated that nations, like individuals, do not always see alike or think alike; when he tried to parry Chungking's criticism of inadequate American aid by a lame apologia for what he claimed America has done "despite almost insuperable difficulties".

The failure of America's diplomatic program is indicated by the fact that the President's message was conspicuously vague and obscurantistic on the subject of foreign policy. While warning the public that confusion and strife was inevitable, all he could utter in regard to the establishment of a world order was the glittering generality that there would have to be created a "peoples' peace" if a third World War is to be avoided. His perfunctory deploring of power politics and his lukewarm statement that the United States would use its "influence" to secure the fulfilment of the "principles" but not necessarily the specific provisions of the Atlantic Charter "so far as is humanly possible" disclose his abandonment of the idealistic pretensions which he had utilized so blatantly for propaganda purposes in the past.

Thus the President's veiled inferences flatly contradict his claim that the war is going well for America. If the confusing inconsistencies of his message are ironed out, it will be seen that the state of the Union is hardly one to which the President can point with pride.

A Year Ago Today

January 10, 1944

On the night of January 4, four bi-motored enemy bombers and one four-motored enemy bomber raided Koepang in Timor. The Japanese Defense Forces subjected them to intense anti-aircraft fire and shot down two bi-motored bombers and damaged the four-motored and a bi-motored bomber. The damage sustained by the Japanese was negligible.

* * *

During the past year since the National Government's declaration of war on Britain and the United States, the Shansi Province Peace Preservation Corps in close cooperation with Japanese Forces engaged Chinese Communists 908 times, in the course of which they counted 4,010 enemy dead abandoned on the battle-fields. The peace preservation corps also took 859 prisoners in addition to seizing large quantities of weapons and other war supplies.

SYMPTOMS OF ENGLAND'S WEAKNESSES

Drain on Human Resources Is Biggest Blow to Britain

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

Five and a half years have already elapsed since the outbreak of the European war. The Hundred Years War and the Thirty Years War had been fought in a comparatively nonchalant age when people walked or rode on horses and they were fought during a course of frequent intermissions. The speed and intensity of the current great war enables the five and a half years of today to correspond fully to one hundred or two hundred years of the past. The war of today has no precedent or comparison with past wars in any sense. It is a long and a furious war. It is, therefore, natural that exhaustion has appeared in various forms among the combatant nations. Small nations followed one after another in withdrawing from the war scene. The big nations remaining alive on the battlefield are all covered with wounds. This applies to Germany, the Soviet Union and England also. England's case can be said to be most serious in this connection. The physical losses of both Germany and the Soviet Union are gigantic. Their losses might be greater than those which are being inflicted upon England. The spiritual suffering is, however, most grave in England's case.

Let us hear from the English side the sacrifices paid by the homefront in England up till today in the present war without touching on her losses on the battlefront. The following figures are from the speech made by Ben Smith, representative of the British Munitions Ministry in America and from the editorial of the Daily Sketch.

War expenditures up till today: £25,000,000,000.

Overseas trade:—30 per cent of prewar volume.

Deaths among the people as a result of air raids up to June, 1944—53,747.

Number of injured among the people as a result of air raids up to June, 1944—68,998.

Number of houses demolished by V-1's—1,027,995.

England's Future

The biggest cause of England's spiritual sufferings of today lies in the doubt as to whether she will be able to entertain hopes in the future against such gigantic sacrifices.

It has already been pointed out from various circles that the future of England is a dark one, regardless of whether she wins or loses. Although England had caused the current great war to break out in order to maintain the British Empire and to secure its eternal prosperity, what is the situation in which she finds herself today?

England's human resources, which have been her greatest weak point, have been ruthlessly squandered on the battlefield and on the homefront and the speed of this exhaustion is fated to become more and more accelerated. Everyone knows today that the overseas investments which England had possessed have been almost entirely exhausted. Not a vestige remains today of the plutocratic kingdom. England's current shipping volume, which constituted the basis of her prosperity, is only one-third of that possessed by the United States. England's air routes, which covered the entire world with the Imperial Airways as their main pivot, cannot compete against America after the war. Englands oil resources are being threatened by America and the Soviet Union and the British affiliated Dutch Shell Company and her oil interests in Burma have been completely extinguished from existence as a result of the Japanese occupation.

Even on the assumption that England remains a victor from the current war she will have to compete against the powerful United States and the Soviet Union with a strength of a second or third-rate nation. It is obvious that when the balance of power should be disrupted to such a stage the attitude of the dominions under England will be clarified of itself. Although Churchill said that he did not become the King's first Minister to liquidate the British Empire the cold and stern facts bespeak that England is heading in that direction.

Such spiritual sufferings of England have appeared in two different forms in political circles and public opinion.

The first form is the fiery self-criticism. Since when General Smuts said in 1943: "It must be resolved that England's power will deteriorate to that of a second or third-rate nation after the war," this kind of self-criticism became a sort of a fad. There are innumerable instances illustrating this tendency. Archbishop Inge said: "It's alright for England to be reduced to a status of a happy agricultural country." The Contemporary Review carried an article which confessed the loss of prestige of the British Empire. There was an article in the Fortnightly Review which dealt on the dire threat of England by Soviet's hegemony over Europe. The magazine Sphere, wrote: "Unless we win in 1944, there will remain nothing of value in the world for the survivors." Pessimism is rampant in the British press.

The other form is the extraordinary enthusiasm regarding postwar plans. The attention of the press circles in England is directed more on postwar problems rather than on the war itself. This shows that England, tiring of the war, is attempting to escape from realities by pursuing postwar dreams instead of dealing with the problems of the moment. The postwar international problems which England is currently occupied with are the problems of the international structure which was discussed at Dumbarton Oaks, international agreements regarding finance, shipping, petroleum, air routes, etc. Solution has not been seen for any of these problems yet.

England is most enthusiastic in the establishment of a Western European bloc and is concentrating her efforts for this purpose. The establishment of the Western European bloc, which includes the Iberian Peninsula, France, Holland, Belgium and if possible the Scandinavian countries, is the only weapon which England possesses at the moment to bolster her position. England believes that only by depending on this Western European bloc can she compete against the Soviet influence and maintain her position on equal terms with the imperialism of the United States.

JOTTINGS ON THE JAPANESE ART OF LIFE

By JAPONICUS

Archibald MacLeish, poet and ex-Congressional librarian and now newly appointed Assistant Secretary of State, was reported several months back to have taken to task the political and economic wiseacres around Washington planning the postwar world, by rightly pointing out that their so-called plans were all built on sands, for they failed to tackle the fundamentals of human culture.

Culture is essentially an art of life. Each nation has its own art of life and national character itself is a concept predicated upon it. It is also upon this art of life, not upon sheer political and economic mechanisms, that national welfare and the peace and amity among nations ultimately depend.

We believe, though it may sound rather trite to say so, that it is necessary for mankind to amalgamate in some way the civilizations of East and West. It would not do, however, that such an amalgamation is effected in a mechanical fashion. It would be deplorable for themselves and for humanity that nations of the East should simply imitate the West. They must rather endeavor to "integrate" Western culture with their own. Western nations need not bother themselves, as they sometimes do, with the outward forms of Oriental life. There is, however, much in the spiritual heritages of Eastern nations which can breathe new life into Western civilization and give it a new direction.

Cultural divergences of nations created by processes of integration rather than drab uniformity caused by mechanical imitation tend to enrich human civilization as a whole.

On the other hand cultural divergences, essentially beneficent to mankind, are often causes of misunderstanding among nations. Constant endeavors, must, therefore, be made to remove such misunderstanding for the promotion of international amity.

In the following paper we shall deal with some aspects of the Japanese art of life. It is not in any chauvinistic spirit that we dwell on the theme. It is rather for the benefit of ourselves, so that we shall not lose sight of our traditions in our eagerness to adopt other cultures. It may, however, assist other nations to understand us better, and may incidentally give them hints and suggestions for the betterment, in their own ways, of their arts of life.

1. Love of Nature

The pivotal principle of the Japanese art of life seems to us to consist in man's identification with the spirit of nature. By nature we understand the natural phenomena, evident to the senses subject to the cosmic order which can be penetrated not so much by intellectual acumen as through mystic processes. In the course of long cycles of her life the Japanese nation has maintained intimate communion with nature in all her moods, now bright and brilliant, now sober and terrible, generally serenely calm and pacific, in this miniature but exquisitely chiselled island realm. The Japanese have developed in this way a strong nature-sense, a filial relationship with nature, so to speak, in conformity with her laws and temper. On such affiliation is founded the culture and civilization of Japan. It is sometimes designated by the word "Shinto" or the "Way of the Deities."

This relationship between man and nature, as the Japanese conceive it, should be that of total submission, to nature. It is not, however, a negative quality as it may seem at first sight, nor is it a weak sentimentality. It is a positive virtue as unstrained as the flowing of the river from its fountain-head in the mountain—the innate wisdom of the human soul. It is akin to the trustful confidence of the child in its mother or the love the bride bears for her bridegroom, exulting in perfect obedience. Here is apparently a sentiment alien to that conception of nature implied in the militaristic phrase: "conquest of nature." Man can not appreciate beauty by reasoning. Still less can man gauge the heart of nature, if he assumes an arrogant attitude toward her. It is only when the heart of man is cleansed of all pride and conceit and returns to that childlike faith so fertile in original intuition that the esoteric vision of things as they are is revealed. This presupposes a disinterested state of mind, unclouded with worldly cares or selfish interests, seeing values in their right perspective. We call it "Akaki Naoki Kiyoki Kokoro". It seems to be another way of saying that the pure in heart shall see God. We all know that that love is not pure which proceeds from some selfish motive. A man marrying a woman because he wants a housekeeper does not understand the sanctity of marriage. Neither can he be said to bring a proper frame of mind toward nature, when his "love of nature" springs from a desire to exploit her forces or even to enjoy her beauty.

The traditional attitude of the Japanese people toward nature is one of awe and reverence and of love and adoration at the same time. They are, therefore, ready to receive with gratitude whatever nature brings to them, good and bad together, if "bad" may be called some of her gifts. They sing of beautiful blossoms, of the silver moon and the purple landscape. With no less enthusiasm do they praise the melancholy charm of the autumn, the mists, the evening shadows and the very rigor of wintry scenes. The nightingale's music is as the holy oil to their heart. Not less gracious is the croaking of the frog or the cawing of the crow. The sight of the lone scarecrow standing in the field after the harvest is as dearly-treasured a part of the scenery as the fruits adorning the golden slopes yonder. Even one who has only a superficial knowledge of Japanese poetry becomes aware that the themes of poetic inspiration cover every nook and cranny of nature, beautiful and "ugly" alike. In fact the word "ugly" has no place in the book of nature as the Japanese read it.

Nor are the Japanese over-awed by such majestic phenomena as the sun, the stars or the ocean. It was the famous saying of Protinus that nature is a merciless monitor whose method is "Blow first and explanation after". Was not even Kant over-awed by the star-spangled heavens as well as by the sense of right and wrong within him? To the Japanese mind nature is ever "good-natured" and indulgent. It is mysterious yet understandable. There is a language common to man and nature, birds and flowers, mountains and streams, if you have but an ear to hear. The Japanese are not awe-struck by mysterious phenomena in physical and social life, though they are so apt to be wonder-struck by everything else in nature—by the sound of a frog leaping into an old pond or of a single paulownia leaf falling from an autumnal sky.

The same attitude is brought to bear on the material conditions of life. For the blessings of plenty and good savor in food they are of course grateful, but so also welcome is want and poverty. If they are to make the best of a poor lot—to make a little go a long way—they find in that very effort the essence of poetry or the art of living. In one of Basho's famous verses is shown the charm of snow-viewing: he goes out to enjoy it "till he shall fall in the snow-viewing": till he will find the snow too deep or himself too tired. In another verse we find him sauntering in the exquisite loneliness of a "deserted mountain path on an autumnal afternoon." Both these and other verses of Basho tend to show that the supreme moment of his poetic inspiration is reached when he has lost himself in the mood of surrounding nature. There is poetry, too, in adversity.

Western readers may find in this Japanese attitude toward nature an analogy of the poetic or pious spirit shown by some of their famous poets and mystics. The names of Cowper and Wordsworth, Saint Francis and Thomas A. Kempis and others will readily occur to mind. Disinterested love of nature and hankering after the spiritual beauty of poverty and obedience are the common attributes of the pure and the godly, East and West. The only difference seems to be that in Japan love of nature constitutes a common trait of the masses, instead of the select few. Was it not Madame de Stael who said that "If it were not for public opinion, I would not open my window to see the Bay of Naples for the first time, while I would go five hundred leagues to talk with a man of sense?" Was it not Samuel Johnson, one of the gods of English literature, who in his Dictionary defined mountains as morbid growths and unnatural swellings on the earth's surface? Generally, love of nature so-called seems to be allied in some way with utilitarianism. What is the beauty of pastoral life but for the milk-producing cows and wool-yielding sheep? What is the charm of the farm gardens but for the tomatoes and cucumbers? What is the beauty of the mountain and the sea but for the bracing air good for tired week-enders? Is not this a view of nature common to the masses if not of a select few?

To the Japanese mind even the English phrase "love of nature" if literally translated, sounds somewhat irrelevant, if not irreverent. They do not regard nature as a spectacle. In many a pictorial scroll of natural scenery are represented human figures admiring the surrounding scenery. They are really intended to form part of nature herself, merged and melted into the landscape so that one can not tell the boundary between nature and man. In springtime the whole countryside will go out in holiday attire to enjoy the blossoms on hill and dale. Sometimes we find foreign observers saying that these alleged "flower-viewers" are not always viewing the blossoms so much as feasting and drinking, or singing and dancing, unconscious of the surrounding beauty. The Japanese would have to plead guilty to such an indictment, for "hanami" (flower-viewing) to them is only a Japanese mode of expressing one's joy of spring identifying oneself with the spirit of sakura, which also quickened by the vernal sun, comes out in gala attire to sing the gladness of the earth. They are not gazing at the blossoms with the eye of an art critic appraising a brother craftsman's work. The autumnal festival of "moon-viewing"—never omitted in the most sanguinary year of war—is observed with the same spirit. "Greeting the Honorable Master Moon," which is what "O-Tsuki-Mi" literally signifies, is only a poetic way of praising the spirit of autumn so wonderfully illumined by the moon.

What is the highest value in the religious systems ever known but the sense of awe and reverence issuing from our innate piety toward what is higher or nobler than self? What constitutes the highest moral beauty but the absence of self shown in one's conduct toward fellow men? Is not this something fundamental, identical with the deepest religion ever revealed to man? It is because of this essentially religious quality forming the backbone of the Japanese character that they have been, though unconsciously, so responsive to and so tolerant of whatever doctrine or philosophy which they think manifests even in small measure the principles of nature. It is responsible also for that stern fortitude and sweet resignation with which they face the trials of adversity. In the same spirit of implicit faith in the Providence of nature, their sons and daughters respond to the call of duty, and, if needs be, gladly die for a cause greater than self. And is it not due to this that the solidarity of this island nation has remained unshaken for so long?

TIMES BOOK SHELF

Romaji Mannyoshu

Compiled by Sakurane Konoshin and Kusakabe Jutaro, Published by Teikoku Romaji Club, Osaka, Second Edition in reduced size.

It was due to the continued demand for the Mannyoshu in Romaji that the second impression of "Romaji Mannyoshu" was made. In 1936 the book was first published, and it was immediately welcomed by the students of the oldest collection of Japanese poems.

The Mannyoshu poems rendered in Romaji are found particularly valuable to the students of the oldest classics, because the original is extremely difficult, Chinese characters being adopted to give the sound of the ancient Japanese language. The Romaji Mannyoshu relieves all readers of the extreme trouble in studying how the original text should be read. Furthermore, the compilers have taken great care in giving explanations of the ancient and difficult expressions in each poem, in order to enable the reader to grasp their meaning readily without resorting to dictionaries.

The efforts of the compilers will be greatly appreciated not only by Japanese students, but also by those of various countries in Greater East Asia, who are now beginning to be interested in the study of Japanese classic literature.

Fruits of Wisdom

Put it out of the power of truth to give you an ill character.—If anybody reports you not to be an honest man let your practice give him the lie.—Marcus Antoninus.

* * *

For present grief there is always a remedy; however much thou sufferest, hope; hope is the greatest happinese of man.—Schefer.

* * *

The man who lives only by hope will die with despair.—Italian Proverb.

MANCHURIAN MEMORIES

53 Years Ago Continental Neighbor Was Pastoral Country

By RYUZO TORII

I

Ever since an early age, I had a particular yearning for this great land of the Manchus, and as if to satisfy this inexplicable craving I began very soon to read many books both for reference and interest. Among them, such books as "The Unification of Great China", "The Golden Gates of Shengking" and "The Beginnings of Manchuria" were wells of information, while James' "Mount Changping—a travelogue of Manchuria in 1888"—and similar other books made interesting reading.

Although wrapped up in an intense desire to travel in Manchuria whenever the opportunity presented itself in order to attempt an anthropological and archaeological survey of the country, this was exceedingly difficult in those days and thus my hopes remained, at least for some time, nothing more than a fruitless dream.

Suddenly in 1894, however, the Sino-Japanese War broke out. The flames of war fanned out from Chosen to Manchuria and finally in the following year Manchuria soon fell into the hands of the Japanese Army. Seeing that the occupation of Manchuria by the Japanese Forces had here at last brought the opportunity to make my daily dream come true, I then and there decided that I would somehow, under whatever circumstances, visit the country.

The time too was exceedingly appropriate. The Tokyo Anthropological Society in sympathy with my unaltered ambition instantly entrusted me with the task of making an anthropological survey in Manchuria and having obtained the necessary permit from the War Ministry, my departure from Tokyo was at last fixed for the month of August. The year was 1895. I was indeed a young and inexperienced fledgling at the time and looking back to that day it surprises me to see how I could have been audacious enough to accept such an important and responsible mission.

No Text Books on Manchuria

The savants of the Tokyo Imperial University at the time as well as the scholars of other institutions could be said to have had almost no scientific knowledge at all regarding Manchuria. The only publications in that period appearing in this country concerning Manchuria were a book describing the physical features of the land edited by the Military Staff Headquarters and a map published by the Tokyo Geographical Society. A translation of the chapter relating to Manchuria from Richthoffen's book "China," undertaken by my friend Naokata Yamazaki, which appeared in the magazine "Geology" was something exceedingly rare insofar as it served to introduce Manchuria to the public from a hitherto unexplored perspective.

The occupation of Manchuria had already been effected by our military forces, but the number of scholars who embarked on a survey of the occupied zone was far from satisfactory. Professor Kochibe, chief of the Geological Survey Bureau and Professor Kotora Jimbo, chosen by the Ministry of Commerce and Agriculture and the Tokyo Geographical Society respectively, were, as far as I know, the only two persons dispatched with assignments which involved a geological survey of the country.

Professor Jimbo, a geologist and at the same time a research student at the Hokkaido Imperial University, had already carried out surveys in Hokkaido. With the savings accumulated from the small monthly income which he had received from the Prefectural Office supplemented by funds out of his own pocket, he studied at German and Russian universities, undertaking geological researches into the nature of North Asian soils. He had just returned from his scholastic studies abroad by way of Siberia and was regarded as an authority on the geology of the vast Siberia-Hokkaido-Karafuto areas. Immediately on his return, the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-95 broke out and he at once obtained the distinction of being selected by the Tokyo Geographical Society to complete a comparative study of Manchurian soil. Although there could have been no comparison at all between such renowned scholars and myself, it nevertheless became my lot to proceed to Manchuria for the purpose of making an anthropological and archaeological survey of the country.

Forerunner of All

Reviewing the past today, it might be said that with the exception of the professors of geology, I was the first individual to make a practical survey of Manchurian anthropology and archaeology, nay, perhaps even the very forerunner and father of all surveyors sent out from this country to make practical investigations on the East Asiatic continent.

Ever since that first trip in 1895, I have until today devoted my whole life in studies pertaining to Manchuria and the Asiatic mainland. Although my work up till now has been of an inconspicuous nature, like the foundation stones lying hidden below, nonetheless supporting the huge structure of states, it gives me great satisfaction and relief to see Manchoukuo bustling with prosperity at the present time as well as to know that large numbers of scholars have since voluntarily stepped forward to take up the banner of research in Manchoukuoan affairs.

The conditions in Manchuria fifty three years ago were far different from what they are today. The country commonly referred to by the Japanese people as Manchuria at the time was the Liaotung Peninsula and extended from Ryojun (Port Arthur) in the south to the vicinity of Haicheng in the north, Chulengcheng and the adjacent areas to the east, and to Yingkou and the neighboring territory in the west.

The highly developed system of railways criss-crossing the country today was, of course, at the time still a thing left for future generations to plan and build. No sign or shadow of the present high degree of development could be discerned anywhere. Far from drawing any attention, the country was pervaded by a bleak and barren solitude as it stood a remote and desolate cast-away to the northeast corner of Asia.

Transportation Routes

Two principal transportation routes, however, existed—the overland route from Peking via Shanhaikwan and the sea lanes from Tengchou in Shantung Province via the Miatao Islands—over which a feeble stream of commodities flowed into the land. With their country essentially agricultural, accounting for an abundance of cereals and beans, which comprised the principal products, the people enjoyed a freedom from want in their daily lives. Trade flourished in the innumerable small towns that could be found everywhere such as Chinchou, Fuchou, Kaiping, Hsiungyo, Yingkou, Tashihchiao, Haicheng, Hsiuyen, Fenghuangcheng, Chiulencheng, Takushan, Pitzuwo, Shuishihying and others.

The construction of railways at a later date served to make almost all of these places out-of-the-way towns, and a great difference in the situation has occurred. The main network of communications in the Liaotung Peninsula at the time centered around Chinchou, with a road running southward to what is now called Ryojun and thence skirting the shores of the Yellow Sea to Chosen via Chengtsutan and Takushan, et cetera, while another, a northern road, ran from Fuchou to Liaoyang and Mukden. From Mukden it was possible to proceed further either to the east or to the west to Peking and a junk route also existed from Ryojun to Tengchou via the Miaotao Islands.

Methods of Travel

Enough for Manchoukuo's ancient routes of communication. Turning to the methods of travel over these land routes, attention can be focussed to three principal modes, viz., the horse drawn carriage, sedan chairs or palanquins, and journeys on foot. While large carts drawn by a pack of several horses and primitive canoes or dugouts formed means of transportation, the former, however, were for the most part utilized in the transportation of cereals and other loads whereas the latter were resorted to where crude and defective bridges spanned deep gorges and rivers in the path of travel.

I always then made it a habit to wear straw sandals and travel on foot as much as possible, but there would be intervals when I would be favored by rides in one of these big carts kindly placed at my disposal by the Army authorities. It was the fashion at the time among all Japanese people to wear straw sandals and so popular was this particular type of footwear that even the rank and file in the Army proclaimed that these had a way, far better than Western boots, of not only giving comfort but, more important still, of emboldening the spirits of all in battle. It was a common thing during the period to hear the oft-repeated remark that the Japanese people could never forget both sandals of straw and rice balls with dried plums, for these were, as they put it, essentially and infallibly, symbols of the spirit of Japan.

Wearing straw leggings I roamed the Manchurian plains from August to December, a period of about five months. To those who are only familiar with modern day Manchoukuo—the Manchoukuo of railways and motor cars—a travel throughout the country on foot would probably seem foolish, little realizing that it is by this procedure that I attained not merely an intimacy with the special characteristics of the land, the accomplishment of a minute survey of the country but, at the same time, a contact and taste as well of the color and fragrance permeating the life inherent in that vast but then undeveloped domain.

A magnificent spectacle of autumnal scenes, profusely rich with Nature's colored schemes, greeted me everywhere as my first visit of search and study took me across one small typical Chinese town after another interspersed throughout this virgin terrain. High up in the heavens the sky, it seemed, spread out a light thin veil of fascinating blue as fields of ripe tall Manchurian corn (the kaoliang) below bent down their tall and clustering products in grateful admiration and unadulterated content.

(To Be Continued)